

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2, 4, 8 and 10 without prejudice to or the disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 5 to 7, 9, 11 and 12 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A shutter apparatus comprising:

a shutter base plate having a shutter aperture;

a first arm member which rotates around a center of rotation at a first axis, relative to said shutter base plate;

a second arm member which rotates around a center of rotation at a second axis, relative to said shutter base plate; and

a plurality of shutter blades, ~~wherein~~ each of the plurality of shutter blades ~~is being~~ coupled to said first and second arm members, ~~wherein~~ whereby rotation of said first and second arm members ~~rotate~~ around their respective axes ~~whereby causes~~ said plurality of shutter blades to run over said shutter aperture,

wherein each shutter blade has a blade main body portion extending in a direction perpendicular to a running direction thereof, ~~and~~

wherein a first shutter blade with a smallest running travel comprises a light shielding portion projecting in ~~said the~~ running direction on the coupling portion side to said first and second arm members and arranged to effect light shielding of said shutter aperture; and

wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$L1 > W1$ ,

where  $W1$  is a length, in the running direction, of the blade main body portion of said first shutter blade, and  $L1$  is a projection length of said light shielding portion from said blade main body portion.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) The shutter apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a second shutter blade with a second smallest running travel ~~out~~ of said plurality of shutter blades comprises a second light shielding portion projecting in ~~said~~ the running direction on the coupling portion side to said first and second arm members and arranged to effect light shielding of said shutter aperture, and

wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$$\underline{L2 > W2},$$

where W2 is a length, in the running direction, of the blade main body portion of said second shutter blade, and L2 is a projection length of said second light shielding portion from said blade main body portion.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) A camera comprising the shutter apparatus as set forth in Claim 1.

6. (Currently Amended) The shutter apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the number of said shutter blades is 4.

7. (Currently Amended) A shutter apparatus comprising:  
a shutter base plate having a shutter aperture;  
a first arm member which rotates around a center of rotation at a first axis,  
relative to said shutter base plate;

a second arm member which rotates around a center of rotation at a second axis, relative to said shutter base plate; and

a plurality of shutter blades, ~~wherein~~ each of the plurality of shutter blades ~~is being~~ coupled to said first and second arm members, ~~wherein~~ whereby rotation of said first and second arm members rotate around their respective axes ~~whereby~~ causes said plurality of shutter blades to run over said shutter aperture,

wherein each shutter blade has a blade main body portion extending in a direction perpendicular to a running direction thereof, ~~and~~

wherein a first shutter blade with a second smallest running travel comprises a light shielding portion projecting in the ~~said~~ running direction on the coupling portion side to said first and second arm members and arranged to effect light shielding of said shutter aperture, and

wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$$L2 > W2,$$

where W2 is a length, in the running direction, of the blade main body portion of said first shutter blade, and L2 is a projection length of said light shielding portion from said blade main body portion.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) The shutter apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein a second shutter blade with a smallest running travel ~~out~~ of said plurality of shutter blades comprises a second light shielding portion projecting in ~~said~~ running direction on the coupling portion side to said first and second arm members and arranged to effect light shielding of said shutter aperture, and

wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$L1 > W1$ ,

where W1 is a length, in the running direction, of the blade main body portion of said second shutter blade, and L1 is a projection length of said second light shielding portion from said blade main body portion.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) A camera comprising the shutter apparatus as set forth in Claim 7.

12. (Currently Amended) The shutter apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein the number of said shutter blades is 4.